Introduced by Senator Dunn

February 20, 2004

An act to add Section 6254.18 to the Government Code, relating to public records.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1590, as introduced, Dunn. Public records: personal information.

The existing California Public Records Act provides that, except for exempt records, every state or local agency, upon request, shall make records available to any person upon payment of fees to cover costs.

This bill would exempt from disclosure under these provisions any record of a state or local agency that contains personal information received, collected, or compiled by that agency regarding the employees, volunteers, officers, contractors, or other agents of a reproductive health services facility, as defined under the Freedom of Access to Clinic and Church Entrances Act.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. The Legislature hereby finds and declares all of 2 the following:
- 3 (a) No health care worker should be subject to the risk of
- 4 threats, assaults, or physical harm in order to provide any legal
- 5 medical procedure.
- 6 (b) A 2000 survey of providers or reproductive services
- 7 conducted by the Senate Office of Research found that, from 1995

SB 1590 — 2 —

through 2000, half of health care workers providing reproductive
services experienced a crime consisting of threats of violence and
vandalism.

- (c) Threats of violence, stalking, and vandalism have extended beyond reproductive service providers to also target their family members and supporters.
- (d) The personal information used to target the victims of these crimes often is obtained by making a request for public records from a government agency.
- (e) The high incidence of violence against reproductive service providers is one of the primary reasons why access to reproductive health services has become increasingly difficult.
- SEC. 2. Section 6254.18 is added to the Government Code, to read:
- 6254.18. (a) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to require disclosure of any record of a public agency that contains personal information received, collected, or compiled by that agency regarding the employees, volunteers, officers, contractors, or other agents of a reproductive health services facility, as defined in subdivision (h) of Section 423.1 of the Penal Code.
- (b) For purposes of this section, "personal information" means any information that is maintained by a public agency that identifies or describes an individual, including, but not limited to, his or her name, social security number, physical description, home address, home telephone number, education, financial matters, medical or employment history, electronic mail address, and information that reveals any electronic network location or identity.